

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

1. (amended) A nucleic acid comprising the nucleotide sequence of the genome of a non-subtype B HIV-1 virus, wherein said nucleotide sequence is SEQ ID No. 8.

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[Please amend claim 2 as follows:]

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~~2. (amended)~~ A nucleic acid comprising a sequence of at least 12 contiguous bases of the nucleic acid of claim 1.

[Please amend claim 3 as follows:]

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3. (amended) A nucleic acid comprising the nucleotide sequence of an LTR of the nucleic acid of claim 1.

[Please amend claim 4 as follows:]

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4. (amended) A nucleic acid encoding a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of Gag, Pol, Vif, Vpr, Env, Tat, Rev, Nef and Vpu, wherein the polypeptide is encoded by the genome of a non-subtype B HIV-1 virus 96ZM651.8, wherein the nucleotide sequence of said genome is SEQ ID No. 8.

Please amend claim 6 as follows:

16. (amended) A nucleic acid comprising a sequence

complementary to the sequence of a nucleic acid of any one of claims

1, 3 or 4
E 1-4. 1-3

Please amend claim 10 as follows:

10. (amended) A composition comprising a nucleic acid

of any one of claims 1 to 4, and a physiologically acceptable carrier.

Please amend claim 33 as follows:

33. (amended) A kit for detecting the presence of a

non-subtype B HIV-1 virus in a sample comprising a nucleic acid of

any one of claims 1, 3 or 4.

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